

REMARKS

Applicant has amended the Specification to correct an inadvertent error, replacing the term "jounce" with "rebound".

The Examiner indicated that the subject matter of claims 6-16, 22-28 and 32-39 appeared to be allowable if the 35 U.S.C. 112 rejections were overcome, although the Examiner also rejected claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Applicant has amended the claims so that claims 6, 8-15, 22-28 and 32-39 overcome said rejections, as detailed below, and Applicant submits that these claims are in allowable form.

Independent claims 6, 8-10, 12, 14, 15, 22, 23, 27, 32, 33, 35, 37 and 39 have also been amended to incorporate the pertinent aspects of the base claim and any intervening claims, although the claims have been reworded for clarity. Applicant submits that said claims are therefore allowable in accordance with the Examiner's comments. Dependent claims 11, 13, 24-26, 28, 34 and 38 have been amended for clarity only (with or without regard to the 112 rejections) and claim 36 is an original claim. Applicant submits that said dependent claims are also allowable in accordance with the Examiner's comments.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-39 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. In particular, the Examiner indicated that the term "translatable" in claims 1 and 19 was unclear. Applicant has canceled claims 1 and 19, but has changed the limitations of said claims incorporated elsewhere to clarify that the push rod is "for translating movement of the movable wall." Applicant submits that this clarification overcomes the Examiner's rejection.

The Examiner indicated that in claims 10 and 11, it was unclear to what "pivot arm" referred. Applicant submits that the confusion is actually due to the inadvertent dependency of claim 10 from claim 5, as the pivot arm in claim 5 is relating to an embodiment which is inconsistent with the concept of claims 10 and 11. Applicant has therefore eliminated the limitation of claim 5 for clarification and submits that claim 10 is allowable as amended. This clarification also eliminates the

need to change claim 11 with respect to this objection. Claim 11 has otherwise been amended to be consistent with language of claim 10. Applicant submits claim 11 also overcomes the Examiner's rejection and is allowable in accordance with the Examiner's comments.

The Examiner indicated that in claim 13, it was unclear whether "the arms" in line 2 referred to the pivot arms or the articulating arms. Applicant has amended claim 13 to clarify that the articulating arms were intended and submits that claim 13 as amended overcomes the Examiner's rejection.

The Examiner indicated that in claim 16, it was unclear to what "pivot" referred. Claim 16 has been canceled.

The Examiner indicated a confusion in claims 8 and 9 regarding the diaphragm chamber being divided into first and second diaphragm chambers and also into upper and lower chambers. Applicant has renamed the "diaphragm chambers" to be "diaphragm chamber assemblies" for clarity and submits that claims 8 and 9 overcome the Examiner's rejection.

The Examiner indicated insufficient antecedent basis for "the wheel assemblies" in claims 17 and 30 and for "the atmosphere" in claim 17. Claims 17 and 30 have been canceled and claims incorporating the respective limitations of claims 17 and 30 have been reworded to overcome the first antecedent problem. The phrase "the atmosphere" has been removed altogether to overcome the second antecedent problem.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-5, 7, 17-21 and 29-31 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Said claims have been canceled.

Applicant has added new claims 40-54, including independent claim 40, regarding combinations not previously examined and submits that each of said new claims is independently allowable over the cited references, which do not teach or suggest the limitations of said new claims. More particularly, claim 40 recites in part "at least one of the diaphragm chamber assemblies being mounted in a movable manner".

In view of the foregoing, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the claims and most earnestly solicits the issuance of a formal notice of allowability for the claims. Please call the undersigned attorney if any questions remain after this amendment.

Respectfully submitted at Canton, Ohio this 25th day of February, 2004.

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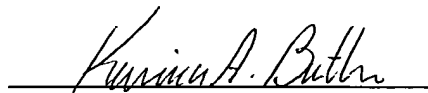
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on this 25th day of February, 2004.


Karina A. Butler